

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for recovery of metals, in particular copper, from copper-bearing raw material containing also other valuable metals, iron, and sulphur, the method comprising:
 - leaching said raw material into an aqueous solution of copper chloride and hydrochloric acid in a leaching stage;
 - adjusting a redox potential of a copper-containing raw material leach in the leaching stage using a feed of an oxydating agent to the range of 480 – 500 mV with regard to a Ag/AgCl electrode, whereby iron and sulphur remain in a deposit formed in leaching and the copper in the aqueous solution is mainly divalent;
 - feeding the aqueous solution coming from the leaching stage to the first extraction stage of a two-stage liquid-liquid extraction stage;
 - extracting, in the first extraction stage, copper from the aqueous solution coming from the leaching stage into a first copper-depleted organic extraction solution while the other valuable metals remain in the aqueous solution coming from the leaching stage;
 - partitioning the aqueous solution coming from the first extraction stage into a first part and a second part;
 - feeding the first part of the aqueous solution back to the leaching stage;
 - neutralizing the second part of the aqueous solution;

feeding the neutralized aqueous solution into the second extraction stage; extracting, in the second extraction stage, copper from the neutralized aqueous solution into a second copper-depleted organic extraction solution while the other valuable metals remain in the neutralized aqueous solution; transferring the a first organic extraction solution and a second organic extraction solution solutions to a stripping stage where copper is transferred from the first and second organic extraction solutions into an aqueous solution of sulphuric acid forming a copper-depleted organic extraction solution; and transferring the copper-depleted organic extraction solution to: the first extraction stage forming the first copper-depleted organic extraction solution and the second extraction stage forming the second copper-depleted organic extraction solution; and feeding the aqueous solution of sulphuric acid from the stripping stage to an electrowinning stage for recovery of elemental copper.

2. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the oxydating agent is oxygen.
3. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the oxydating agent is air.
- 4-7. (Cancelled)
8. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the extraction temperature is less than or equal to about 40°C.
9. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the aqueous solution of sulphuric acid fed to the stripping stage comprises a return acid from the copper electrowinning stage.

10. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising precipitating the other valuable metals from the aqueous solution coming from the second extraction stage using alkali hydroxide precipitation.
11. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the copper-bearing raw material comprises gold and/or platinum group metals.
12. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 11, further comprising precipitating the gold and/or platinum group metals in connection with precipitation of sulphur and iron, the gold and/or platinum group metals being recovered from a precipitate deposit during a sulphur flotation stage.
13. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein a pH value in the leaching stage is at least 1.5.
14. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 10, wherein the other valuable metals are selected from the group consisting of nickel, cobalt and zinc.
15. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 10, further comprising treating the aqueous solution coming from the precipitation step with sulphuric acid whereby hydrochloric acid is obtained; and feeding the treated aqueous solution back to the leaching stage.